

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 04445 262343Z

61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-07 FCC-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 USIA-15 COME-00 BIB-01 TRSE-00

L-03 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 /080 W

----- 053084

P 262231Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8161

UNCLAS OTTAWA 4445

POUCHED AS INFO TO ALL CONSULATES IN CANADA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, CA

SUBJ: TELEVISION POLICY QUESTION

REF: OTTAWA 4383

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARTICLE ENTITLED "BLACK-OUTS
ORDERED ON BRODER STATIONS" PUBLISHED IN OTTAWA
JOURNAL NOVEMBER 26:

BEGIN TEXT. THE CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION COMMISSION
TOOK ACTION TODAY TO SHEILD DOMESTIC TELEVISION STATIONS
FROM GROWING COMPETITION WITH U.S. BORDER STATIONS.
IN ITS NEW CABLE TELEVISION REGULATIONS, WHICH WILL
COME INTO EFFECT APRIL 1, 1976, THE COMMISSION SAYS
THAT CABLE COMPANIES MUST BLACK OUT U.S. PROGRAMS
IF THE PROGRAM IS SIMULTANEOUSLY AVAILABLE ON LOCAL
CHANNELS.

THE BLACK-OUT APPLIES TO ALL CLASS A STATIONS--THOSE
WITH MORE THAN 3,000 SUBSCRIBERS. A WRITTEN NOTICE
OF THE PROGRAM DUPLICATION MUST BE GIVEN TO THE
CABLE STATION INVOLVED AT LEAST ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE,
WITH A COPY OF THE NOTICE SENT TO THE CRTC.

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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 04445 262343Z

THE CRTC DEFINED THE IDENTICAL PROGRAMS AS ANYTHING
95 PERCENT MORE MORE THAN SAME AS THOSE PROVIDED BY THE
LOCAL STATION. THIS WAS DONE BECAUSE AMERICAN
PRIMETIME TELEVISION HAS TWO MINUTES LESS PER HOUR OF
COMMERCIAL TIME, THE CRTC SAID.

'IF WE HAD SAID IDENTICAL PROGRAMS MEANT 100 PERCENT
THE SAME, THE U.S. STATIONS WOULD HAVE BEEN EXEMPT
BECAUSE OF THE TWO-MINUTES-PER-HOUR DIFFERENCE IN
COMMERCIAL TIME,' A CRTC SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.
THE CRTC ANNOUNCEMENT CONTAINED FEW OTHER SURPRISES.
END TEXT.

2. EMBASSY PRESUMES REFERENCE TO CLASS A "STATIONS"
SHOULD READ "CABLE SYSTEMS" AS TV STATIONS DO NOT HAVE
SUBSCRIBERS. WE WILL OBTAIN TEXT OF CRTC DECISION
AND COMMENT NEXT WEEK. JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, TELEVISION STATIONS, CABLE TELEVISION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OTTAWA04445
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750412-0600
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975117/aaaaafpz.tel
Line Count: 78
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TELEVISION POLICY QUESTION
TAGS: ETEL, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
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